Subsidies to State-run companies and banks

1027. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government are providing implicit subsidies to State-run companies and banks;

(b) if so, the quantum thereof provided during the fiscal year ending March, 2001; and

(c) the dividend Government got during the last fiscal year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Interest subsidies and certain other subsidies like guarantee fee subsidy, subsidies to individual companies for specific purposes are being provided to Central Public Sector Undertakings.

(b) the quantum of subsidy on this account for the year 2000-2001 as per Revised Estimates was of the order of Rs. 1020.90 crore.

(c) Total dividend received from Central Public Sector Undertakings, Banks and Financial Institutions during the year 1999-2000 was Rs. 5037 crore.

Policy on allotment of LPG distributorship

1028. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether every town or village with a population of 10000 or more would now be allotted an LPG distribution agency;

(b) if so, the number of LPG distributorships which would be sufficient to cater to the need of rural areas;

(c) how many of these distributorship do exist now; and

(d) how many more LPG distributorships are likely to be allotted for the rural areas?